

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 05144 201827Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /063 W
-----210616Z 107366 /20

R 201611Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3852
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL MTN GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 5144

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, EFTA, ECIN, ETRD
SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION STATEMENT ON VIENNA EFTA SUMMIT MEETING

REF: VIENNA 4075 (NOTAL)

1. FORMAL EC COMMISSION REACTION TO THE EFTA SUMMIT
MEETING (REFTEL) WAS CONVEYED IN THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT,
ISSUED MAY 16, BY COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT WILHELM HAFRERKAMP:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 05144 201827Z

2. BEGIN TEXT: I WELCOME THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE
OF MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE EFTA COUNTRIES WHICH
WAS HELD IN VIENNA ON 13 MAY AT THE INVITATION OF THE
FEDERAL CHANCELLOR OF AUSTRIA, MR. BRUNO KREISKY. FOL-
LOWING THE DOWNING STREET SUMMIT, THE VIENNA CONFERENCE
REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE EFFORTS TO OVERCOME
THE CURRENT WORLD PROBLEMS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH, UNEMPLOY-

MENT, INFLATION AND PAYMENTS IMBALANCES VIA A JOINT AND COORDINATED APPROACH. IN PARTICULAR THE FIRM INTENTION OF THE EFTA STATES TO WORK FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND EXTENSION OF FREE WRLD TRADE IS TO BE STRONGLY WELCOMED.

3. THE PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE OF THE VIENNA CONFERENCE FOR THE COMMUNITY LIES IN THE FACT THAT, UNDER THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS THAT ENTERED INTO FORCE IN 1973, FOR MOST INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, THE LAST TARIFF BARRIERS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE EFTA STATES WILL BE REMOVED ON 1 JULY. AFTER A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD OF FOUR AND HALF YEARS, WEST EUROPE WILL HAVE IN PRACTICE AN INTERNAL TRADING AREA WITH A POPULATION OF OVER 300 MILLION, THE SUCCESSFUL CULMINATION OF A VARIETY OF EFFORTS THAT DATE BACK TO THE FIFTIES AND SIXTIES. THE EFTA STATES ARE THE COMMUNITY'S LARGEST TRADING PARTNER AND IN 1976 TOOK ALMOST ONE-QUARTER OF ALL COMMUNITY EXPORTS.

4. THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS WHICH THE COMMUNITY CONCLUDED WITH EACH OF THE EFTA STATES AFTER THE ACCESSION FOF DENMARK, IRELAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM HAVE FUNCTIONED WELL. HOWEVER, FREE TRADE MUST BE FURTHER EXTENDED AND SECURED, SINCE, AS DUTIES AND QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ARE ABOLISHED, OTHER TRADE BARRIERS INCREASE IN IMPORTANCE. SUCH BARRIERS MUST BE ELIMINATED OR, PREFERABLY, PREVENTED FROM ARISING IN THE FIRST PLACE. THESE QUESTIONS HAVE TO BE EXAMINED IN DETAIL WITH ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 EC BRU 05144 201827Z

5. THE EFTA AREA IS NOT JUST OF COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE FOR THE COMMUNITY, HOWEVER, FOR THE INCREASING INTERDEPENDENCE BETWEEN OURSELVES AND OUR NEIGHBOURS MAKES IT NECESSARY TO CONTINUE AND EXTEND THE EXISTING COOPERATION ON A PRAGMATIC BASIS, IF NECESSARY OUTSIDE THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS.END TEXT

6. COMMENT: ELEMENTS OF THE HAFERKAMP STATEMENT STRIKE US AS A MILD REJOINER TO THE IMPLICATION CONVEYED BY THE EFTA SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE THAT THE EC IS JUST ANOTHER FREE TRADE AREA. TWO ASPECTS OF THE STATEMENT STAND OUT: (1) THE GENTLE REMINDER THAT FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS WERE CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE EC AND THE EFTA STATES BILATERALLY (LEAVING UNSAID BUT IMPLICIT THE FACT THAT EFTA LACKS ANY SUPRANATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OR AUTHORITY AND THAT THE EC WILL CONTINUE TO DISCUSS OTHER ECONOMIC AREAS OF POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH EFTA MEMBER STATES BILATERALLY); AND

(2) THE FLAT ASSERTION THAT NON-TARIFF BARRIERS WILL
CONTINUE TO BE A PROBLEM AFTER JULY 1. END COMMENT
HINTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, TEXT, SUMMIT MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU05144
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770181-0675
Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770537/aaaabfkk.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4632408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 VIENNA 4075
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2441714
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION STATEMENT ON VIENNA EFTA SUMMIT MEETING
TAGS: ECIN, ETRD, EEC, EFTA, (HAFRERKAMP, WILHELM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4632408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009